

Remarks

Claims 1-10, 12-20, and 22-27 are pending. Reconsideration and allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

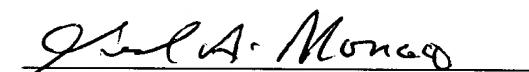
Claims 19, 20, 24, and 25 have been amended to change “ $\alpha\alpha$ -dialkyl” to “an  $\alpha,\alpha$ -dialkyl”. The change overcomes the Section 112 rejection triggered by the absence of a comma between the two occurrences of “ $\alpha$ ”.

Claims 2, 12, 15, 19, 24, and 25, and the claims dependent thereon, have been rejected under Section 112 for indefiniteness due to recitation of “residues 33 to 42 of murine epidermal growth factor”. The affected claims have been clarified by removal of this expression, which is redundant in view of the recitation of the corresponding amino acid sequence, SEQ ID NO:2. Similar changes have been made to claims 1, 5, 6 and 20.

Based on the foregoing, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action toward that end is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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